



"No scientist should be forced to make the decision between their career and speaking the truth. I am so grateful that CSLDF exists for scientists that are put in this position." - Dr. Maria Caffrey

10 YEARS OF CSLDF - Our impact since September 2011

DIRECT LEGAL SUPPORT



Direct legal support provided

to over **220** individuals

in over **260** instances

INDUSTRY-FUNDED ATTACKS



62

individuals defended from industry-funded attacks

GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP



28

individuals defended from government censorship

LEGAL EDUCATION



26 published legal guides

10K+ individuals educated on their legal rights

SILENCING SCIENCE TRACKER



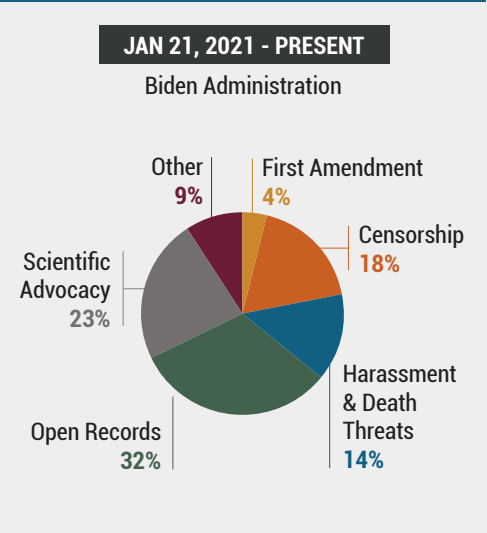
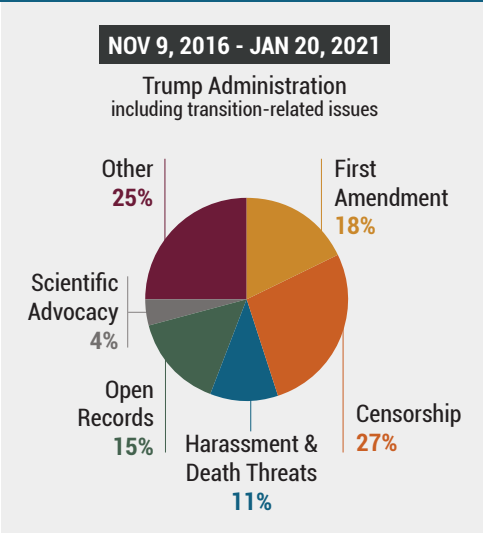
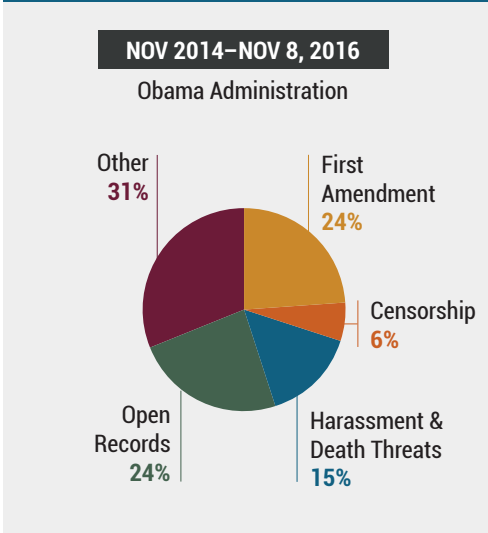
500 government anti-science actions documented in our joint Silencing Science Tracker

TYPICAL YEAR



40+ individuals provided direct legal assistance each year since 2017

BREAKDOWN OF LEGAL ISSUES FACING SCIENTISTS WE'VE SERVED



"Other" category includes a variety of issues such as: Scientists seeking proactive legal advice, Congressional investigations by climate change-denying members of Congress, and cases involving non-U.S. legal issues.

Numbers above reflect primary legal issue facing individuals we've served, although many individuals face issues spanning multiple categories.

Term "individual" is sometimes used to reflect that a small portion of our clients consists of students and those in science-adjacent roles such as science communicators.



Your support has helped defend science for a decade

This year marks ten years of the Climate Science Legal Defense Fund (CSLDF), and I want to give a personal thank you to you—we truly would not be able to have this impact without supporters like you. I also wanted to take a moment to share some of the hard-fought successes, and reflect on the difficulties that remain.

CSLDF's first client was Dr. Michael Mann, a climate scientist facing an onslaught of legal challenges by fossil fuel-funded groups attempting to discredit his research; that defense culminated in legal victory in 2014. But by then, it had become clear that Dr. Mann was not the only climate scientist facing legal threats and in November 2014, I joined as CSLDF's first Executive Director.

I am proud to say that, since 2011, we have helped over 220 individuals defend science against industry-funded attacks, fight government and institutional censorship, and stand up for scientific and climate progress. In the last few years, we have helped, on average, over 40 individuals per year, with 2021 on track to be one of our busiest years yet. Meanwhile, our legal educational resources have been accessed by over 10,000 scientists, lawyers, and others.

Of course, the types of issues facing scientists have changed over the years. Post-Trump, we have seen a marked increase in the number of scientists being targeted for providing scientific expertise to state Attorneys General in climate litigation, engaging in their own climate advocacy, or even just trying to debunk internet climate misinformation. Unfortunately, this appears to be a direct attempt to hinder any form of climate progress.

Meanwhile, other issues—such as government censorship—have become thankfully less common, albeit still far too frequent.

I am excited to have CSLDF on the frontlines of this pivotal moment. Our work to protect scientists and other technical experts ensures they can share their critical research with the public, inform developing climate policies and laws, and prevent against the worst effects of climate change.

We remain focused on repairing the damage to federal research, instituting protections to prevent future harms, and safeguarding the knowledge needed to confront critical environmental issues—whether by defending scientists' First Amendment rights or by supporting them as expert witnesses in climate litigation. We are working hard to ensure that the future is much safer for climate scientists, their vital research, and human and environmental health.

Thank you, again, for your valued partnership in this crucial effort.

With gratitude,

Lauren